

Claims

What is claimed is:

1 1. An information processing system, comprising:
2 a computing device for:
3 receiving an initialization packet originating from a client; and
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client, irrespective of whether an application of the computing device is associated with
6 the data structure of the connection.

1 2. The system of Claim 1 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 3. The system of Claim 1 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
2 the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
3 the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
4 the computing device.

1 4. An information processing system, comprising:
2 a computing device for:
3 receiving a request packet originating from a client; and
4 in response to at least the request packet, associating an application of the computing
5 device with a data structure of a connection with the client.

1 5. The system of Claim 4 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 6. The system of Claim 4 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
2 the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
3 the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
4 the computing device.

1 7. An information processing system, comprising:
2 a computing device for:
3 receiving an initialization packet and a request packet originating from a client;
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client; and
6 in response to at least the request packet, associating an application of the computing
7 device with the data structure of the connection.

1 8. The system of Claim 7 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

3 9. The system of Claim 7 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
4 the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
5 the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
6 the computing device.

1 10. An information processing system, comprising:
2 a first computing device for:
3 associating an application of the first computing device with a data structure of a
4 connection with a client;
5 disassociating the application of the first computing device from the data structure of the
6 connection; and
7 outputting the data structure of the connection to a second computing device for
8 associating an application of the second computing device with the data structure of the
9 connection.

1 11. The system of Claim 10 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

3 12. The system of Claim 10 wherein the application of the second computing device is
4 a first application, and wherein the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a
5 second application executed by the client, an IP address of the second computing device, and a
6 port of the first application executed by the second computing device.

1 13. An information processing system, comprising:
2 a first computing device for:
3 receiving an initialization packet and a request packet originating from a client;
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client; and
6 in response to at least the request packet and a state of at least one of the first computing
7 device and a second computing device, selectively performing one of the following:
8 associating the data structure of the connection with an application of the first computing
9 device; and
10 outputting the data structure of the connection and the request packet to the second
11 computing device for associating an application of the second computing device with the data
12 structure of the connection.

13 14. The system of Claim 13 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
14 numbers associated with the connection.

15 15. The system of Claim 13 wherein the application of the second computing device is
16 a first application, and wherein the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a
17 second application executed by the client, an IP address of the second computing device, and a
18 port of the first application executed by the second computing device.

1 16. A method performed by a computing device of an information processing system,
2 the method comprising:
3 receiving an initialization packet originating from a client; and
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client, irrespective of whether an application of the computing device is associated with
6 the data structure of the connection.

1 17. The method of Claim 16 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 18. The method of Claim 16 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
the computing device.

1 19. A method performed by a computing device of an information processing system,
2 the method comprising:
3 receiving a request packet originating from a client; and
4 in response to at least the request packet, associating an application of the computing
5 device with a data structure of a connection with the client.

1 20. The method of Claim 19 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 21. The method of Claim 19 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
2 the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
3 the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
4 the computing device.

1 22. A method performed by a computing device of an information processing system,
2 the method comprising:
3 receiving an initialization packet and a request packet originating from a client;
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client; and
6 in response to at least the request packet, associating an application of the computing
7 device with the data structure of the connection.

1 23. The method of Claim 22 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 24. The method of Claim 22 wherein the application is a first application, and wherein
2 the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a second application executed by
3 the client, an IP address of the computing device, and a port of the first application executed by
4 the computing device.

1 25. A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing
2 system, the method comprising:
3 associating an application of the first computing device with a data structure of a
4 connection with a client;
5 disassociating the application of the first computing device from the data structure of the
6 connection; and
7 outputting the data structure of the connection to a second computing device for
8 associating an application of the second computing device with the data structure of the
9 connection.

1 26. The method of Claim 25 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

3 27. The method of Claim 25 wherein the application of the second computing device is
4 a first application, and wherein the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a
second application executed by the client, an IP address of the second computing device, and a
port of the first application executed by the second computing device.

1 28. A method performed by a first computing device of an information processing
2 system, the method comprising:
3 receiving an initialization packet and a request packet originating from a client;
4 in response to at least the initialization packet, establishing a data structure of a connection
5 with the client; and
6 in response to at least the request packet and a state of at least one of the first computing
7 device and a second computing device, selectively performing one of the following:
8 associating the data structure of the connection with an application of the first computing
9 device; and
10 outputting the data structure of the connection and the request packet to the second
11 computing device for associating an application of the second computing device with the data
12 structure of the connection.

1 29. The method of Claim 28 wherein the data structure includes a group of sequence
2 numbers associated with the connection.

1 30. The method of Claim 28 wherein the application of the second computing device is
2 a first application, and wherein the data structure includes an IP address of the client, a port of a
3 second application executed by the client, an IP address of the second computing device, and a
4 port of the first application executed by the second computing device.